

THE GDP OF THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

Silke Stapel

Figures for the fourth quarter of 1999

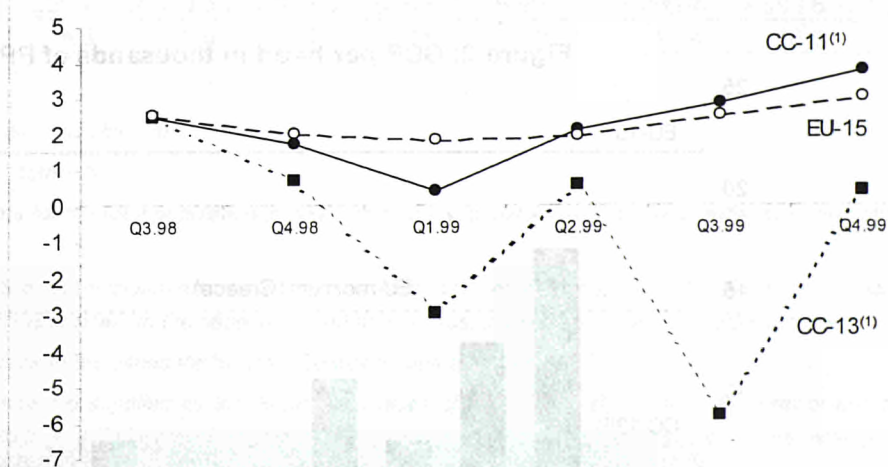
In this publication, Eurostat presents the latest quarterly GDP growth rates for the Candidate Countries (CCs). The CCs comprise Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Turkey. The most recent data published relate to the fourth quarter of 1999, and were submitted by the CCs by 16 May 2000, at the latest.

Annual figures for 1999 are also shown for the first time, though more detailed breakdowns and analysis will shortly be available in a larger *Statistics in Focus*.

Table 1 (overleaf) illustrates the quarterly growth figures back to the third quarter of 1998. The trend for the CCs as a whole is shown below in Figure 1, along with a comparison against the EU-15. However, this summary chart masks great differences in growth between the countries, ranging from -5.0% in Lithuania to +6.2% in Poland for CC-11. Turkey and Malta also record extreme rates of -5.8% and +7.2% respectively.

Figure 1 shows that the average growth rate for the CC-11 group (excluding Turkey and Malta) continues to exceed that of the EU-15, now for the third quarter running. The erratic performance and the large size of the Turkish economy, compared to other CCs, means that the CC-13 average behaves much differently.

Figure 1: Quarterly GDP growth (% change on same period in previous year)



Note: The CC-13 aggregate includes all of the CCs for whom data are available (Cyprus does not publish quarterly growth rates). CC-11 does not include Malta or Turkey and is shown for purposes of comparison with previous publications.

Statistics in focus

ECONOMY AND FINANCE

THEME 2 – 17/2000

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Table 1: GDP growth rates⁽²⁾ – Percentage change on previous year/same quarter of previous year

	Annual					Quarterly					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1998		1999			
						Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Bulgaria (BG)	2.9	-10.1	-7.0	3.5	2.4	-1.8	1.2	0.8	2.7	4.8	1.0
Cyprus (CY)	6.5	1.9	2.4	5.0	4.5	:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic (CZ)	5.9	4.8	-1.0	-2.2	-0.2	-2.5	-3.3	-3.3	0.1	1.0	1.0
Estonia (EE)	4.3	3.9	10.6	4.7	-1.1	2.9	-1.1	-3.3	-2.5	-0.5	1.8
Hungary (HU)	1.5	1.3	4.6	4.9	4.5	5.4	4.7	3.5	3.9	4.5	5.9
Latvia (LV)	-0.8	3.3	8.6	3.9	0.1	2.4	-1.7	-1.5	-1.1	0.2	2.8
Lithuania (LT)	3.3	4.7	7.3	5.1	-4.1	4.1	-0.9	-2.8	-1.4	-6.7	-5.0
Malta (MT)	6.2	4.0	4.9	3.4	4.6	3.5	-8.2	4.2	2.5	5.5	7.2
Poland (PL)	7.0	6.0	6.8	4.8	4.1	4.9	2.9	1.6	3.0	5.0	6.2
Romania (RO)	7.1	3.9	-6.1	-5.4	-3.2	-4.7	2.0	-4.6	-3.3	-3.2	-1.9
Slovak Republic (SK)	6.9	6.6	6.5	4.4	1.9	5.1	0.5	1.8	2.9	0.6	2.4
Slovenia (SI)	4.1	3.5	4.6	3.8	4.9	3.3	3.4	2.9	7.4	4.3	5.0
Turkey (TR)	7.2	7.0	7.5	2.8	:	2.5	-1.0	-9.0	-2.2	-21.5	-5.8
CC-11 ⁽¹⁾	5.5	4.0	3.2	2.6	2.5	2.5	1.7	0.4	2.1	2.9	3.8
CC-13 ⁽¹⁾	6.1	5.0	4.7	2.7	:	2.5	0.7	-2.9	0.6	-5.8	0.4
EU-15	:	1.6	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.5	3.1

Figure 2 and tables 2 and 3, provide an illustration of the latest annual GDP data at current prices, both in ECU and Purchasing Power Standards (PPS).

Regarding data quality, eleven countries are working towards ESA 1995 compliance while Turkey bases its accounts on SNA 1993 (according to its Statistical Office website). Malta, however, is using a dated system based on SNA 1954 and 1968. The statistics in this publication should therefore be interpreted with

an appropriate level of caution – full comparability with EU Member States cannot yet be guaranteed.

Eurostat would like to express its reservations about the sizeable alteration made by the Romanian Statistical Office to the fourth quarter of 1998 growth rate since the last publication. This is being investigated and clarification will be published in the next edition of *Statistics in Focus*.

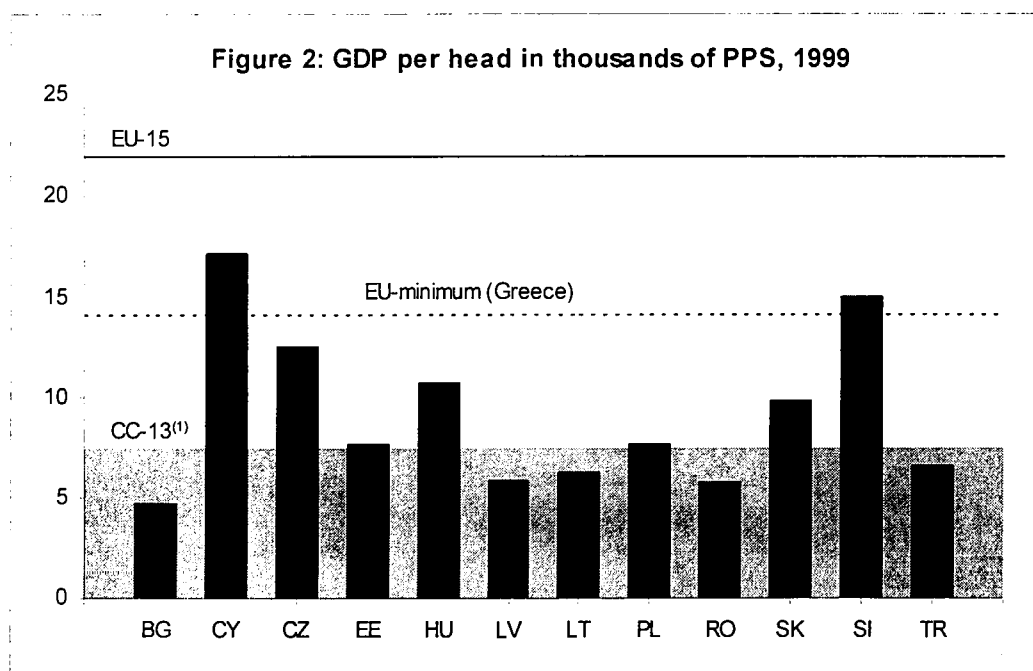


Table 2: GDP per head⁽³⁾ in PPS⁽⁴⁾

	PPS					EU-15=100				
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Bulgaria	4 900	4 600	4 400	4 500	4 700	27	24	22	22	22
Cyprus	13 800	14 500	15 300	16 000	17 100	76	76	76	77	78
Czech Republic	11 000	12 000	12 300	12 200	12 500	60	63	62	58	57
Estonia	5 600	6 100	7 100	7 500	7 700	31	32	35	36	35
Hungary ⁽⁵⁾	8 100	8 600	9 300	9 900	10 700	45	45	47	48	49
Latvia	4 300	4 700	5 300	5 600	5 800	24	24	26	27	26
Lithuania	4 900	5 300	5 900	6 300	6 200	27	28	29	30	28
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	5 600	6 200	6 800	7 200	7 700	31	32	34	35	35
Romania	5 600	6 100	6 000	5 700	5 700	31	32	30	27	26
Slovak Republic	7 300	8 100	8 900	9 400	9 800	40	42	45	45	45
Slovenia	11 300	12 200	13 200	13 900	15 000	62	64	66	67	68
Turkey	5 600	6 000	6 500	6 400	6 500	31	31	32	31	30
CC-13 ⁽¹⁾	6 200	6 700	7 100	7 200	7 400	34	35	35	34	34
EU-15	18 200	19 100	20 000	20 900	21 900	100	100	100	100	100

Table 3: Total GDP at current prices and exchange rates, in ECU and PPS⁽⁴⁾

	1000 Million ECU					1000 Million PPS				
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Bulgaria	10.0	7.8	9.0	11.0	11.6	41.0	38.4	36.3	37.3	39.0
Cyprus	6.8	7.0	7.5	8.1	8.5	8.9	9.4	10.0	10.6	11.4
Czech Republic	39.8	45.6	46.4	49.5	49.8	113.6	123.9	127.2	125.4	128.5
Estonia	2.7	3.4	4.1	4.7	4.8	8.3	9.0	10.3	10.9	11.1
Hungary ⁽⁵⁾	34.1	35.6	40.4	41.9	45.4	83.0	87.6	94.9	100.4	107.8
Latvia	3.4	4.0	5.0	5.4	5.7	10.8	11.6	13.1	13.7	14.1
Lithuania	4.6	6.2	8.5	9.6	10.0	18.0	19.7	21.9	23.2	22.8
Malta	2.5	2.6	2.9	3.1	3.4	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	96.6	112.6	126.3	140.2	144.7	216.5	238.9	264.6	279.7	299.1
Romania	27.1	27.8	31.2	36.9	31.9	127.7	138.1	134.5	128.3	127.6
Slovak Republic	13.3	14.8	17.2	18.1	17.7	39.2	43.5	48.1	50.6	53.0
Slovenia	14.3	14.9	16.1	17.5	18.7	22.5	24.3	26.3	27.6	29.7
Turkey	129.6	143.1	167.8	175.8	182.7	343.1	372.0	407.1	404.9	418.0
CC-13 ⁽¹⁾	384.8	425.5	482.3	521.8	535.1	1 032.8	1 116.3	1 194.3	1 212.6	1 262.0
EU-15	6 578.9	6 906.6	7 269.7	7 593.6	7 965.3	6 578.9	6 906.6	7 269.7	7 593.6	7 965.3
% of EU-15	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.9	6.7	15.7	16.2	16.4	16.0	15.8

(1) Total refers to the countries for whom there are available data

(2) Based on GDP at constant prices in national currency

(3) For the calculation of GDP per head, the data for the total population is taken from the National Accounts; it may differ from that obtained via demographic statistics

(4) The PPPs used to calculate the data at PPS are provisional estimates. The basis of these estimates is the 1996 European Comparison Programme (ECP) results published by OECD/Eurostat. In the case of Poland and Cyprus, the results of the 1997 ECP are used

(5) Due to methodological changes there is a break in the series for Hungary between 1994 and 1995

Data Sources: Where not otherwise specified, data are supplied by the Statistical Offices of the CCs to Eurostat in the form of a quarterly National Accounts data questionnaire. Data for Malta and Turkey were supplied to Eurostat in a general statistical questionnaire, with quarterly data for Turkey taken from their Statistical Office website and the IMF, and annual data for 1999 from the OECD

This report was prepared using contributions from Wayne Codd and Sebastian Reinecke.

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